

Dalai Lama, all we need to do is pay for it ourselves. If all 435 of us contribute, the cost will be roughly \$70 each. So while a gold medal sounds like a great idea, it becomes a bit strange when we see the actual cost involved.

If Congress truly wishes to honor the Dalai Lama, it could instead start by showing more respect for his views in the areas of foreign policy, war, and terrorism. The bellicosity often demonstrated on the floor of this institution toward entire nations and their people conflicts sharply with the peaceful teachings of the Dalai Lama.

Consider the following words of His Holiness:

"When September 11 happened, the next day I wrote a letter to President Bush as a friend—because I know him personally. I wrote this letter and expressed, besides my condolences and sadness, a countermeasure to this tragedy: a nonviolent response because that would have been more effective. So this is my stance. And then just before the Iraq crisis started, millions of people from countries like Australia and America expressed their opposition to violence. I really admired and appreciated this."

"When the war started, some people immediately asked me if it was justified or not, whether it was right or wrong. In principle, any resort to violence is wrong."

Consider also these thoughts from the Dalai Lama regarding the terrible pointlessness of war:

"We have seen that we cannot solve human problems by fighting. Problems resulting from differences in opinion must be resolved through the gradual process of dialogue. Undoubtedly, wars produce victors and losers; but only temporarily. Victory or defeat resulting from wars cannot be long-lasting. Secondly, our world has become so interdependent that the defeat of one country must impact the rest of the world, or cause all of us to suffer losses either directly or indirectly."

"Today, the world is so small and so interdependent that the concept of war has become anachronistic, an outmoded approach. As a rule, we always talk about reform and changes. Among the old traditions, there are many aspects that are either ill-suited to our present reality or are counterproductive due to their shortsightedness. These, we have consigned to the dustbin of history. War too should be relegated to the dustbin of history."

"Of course, the militaristic tradition may not end easily. But, let us think of this. If there were bloodshed, people in positions of power, or those who are responsible, will find safe places; they will escape the consequent hardship. They will find safety for themselves, one way or the other. But what about the poor people, the defenseless people, the children, the old and infirm. They are the ones who will have to bear the brunt of devastation. When weapons are fired, the result will be death and destruction. Weapons will not discriminate between the innocent and guilty. A missile, once fired, will show no respect to the innocent, poor, defenseless, or those worthy of compassion. Therefore, the real losers will be the poor and defenseless, ones who are completely innocent, and those who lead a hand-to-mouth existence."

Mr. Speaker, in closing let me join my colleagues in stating my tremendous respect for His Holiness the Dalai Lama. While I cannot agree with forcible taxation to pay for gold

medals, I certainly hope Congress takes the teaching of His Holiness to heart and begins to rethink our aggressive, interventionist foreign policy.

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2784.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXTENDING THANKS TO DEFENSE POW/MISSING PERSONNEL OFFICE FOR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE ACCOUNTING OF ALL AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR AS A RESULT OF THE VIETNAM WAR

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 444) extending the thanks of Congress and the Nation to the Defense POW/Missing Personnel office, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command of the Department of Defense, the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory, the Air Force Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, and the military departments and to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for their efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Vietnam War, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. CON. RES. 444

Whereas the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO), an element of the Office of the Secretary of Defense, exercises policy, control and oversight within the Department of Defense of the process of investigation, analysis, recovery, and fullest possible accounting of Americans missing as a result of the Nation's previous wars and conflicts;

Whereas the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC), located on the island of Oahu in Hawaii, is charged with the mission of conducting investigations, analysis, recovery, and identifications to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans missing as a result of the Nation's wars and conflicts;

Whereas the laboratory portion of that command, referred to as the Central Identification Laboratory, is the largest forensic anthropology laboratory in the world;

Whereas the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL), located in Rockville, Maryland, is one of the leading laboratories in the world for processing degraded skeletal remains and family references for mitochondrial DNA;

Whereas the Air Force Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory (LSEL), located in San Antonio, Texas, houses the most comprehensive technical library and collection of life sciences equipment used by the Armed Forces, to include analysts for artifact identification;

Whereas National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified in section 902 of title 36, United States Code, as days on which the National League of Families POW/MIA flag is to be flown over specified Federal facilities and national cemeteries, post offices, and military installations;

Whereas as of September 15, 2006, the remains of 60 Americans unaccounted for from the Korean War have been recovered, and these remains have been repatriated, identified, and returned to their families;

Whereas as of September 15, 2006, the remains of more than 375 Americans unaccounted for from World War II, the Cold War, and other conflicts fought by the United States have been recovered throughout the world, and these remains have been repatriated, identified, and returned to their families;

Whereas the improved access of representatives of the United States to information in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Kingdom of Cambodia has resulted in the recovery and repatriation of the remains of Americans unaccounted for from the Vietnam War;

Whereas as of September 15, 2006, 216 Joint Field Actions have been conducted in Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia, which has resulted in the recovery of the remains of 841 Americans unaccounted for from the Vietnam War, and these remains have been repatriated, identified, and returned to their families;

Whereas the United States has a historic commitment to the recovery of, and the fullest accounting of, Americans who are missing as a result of the Nation's wars and conflicts; and

Whereas every member of the United States Armed Forces who is unaccounted for as a result of service to the Nation is equally important, regardless of the time or place of the war or conflict: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) recognizes that National POW/MIA Recognition Day is one of the six days specified by section 902 of title 36, United States Code, as days on which the National League of Families POW/MIA flag is to be flown over specified Federal facilities and national cemeteries, military installations, and post offices;

(2) applauds the personnel of the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command of the Department of Defense, the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory, the Air Force Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, and the military departments for continuing their mission of achieving the fullest possible accounting of all Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Nation's previous wars and conflicts;

(3) extends its appreciation and the appreciation of the people of the United States to the personnel of those offices, commands, and laboratories in the United States, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and the Kingdom of Cambodia for their efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans who remain unaccounted for as a result of the Vietnam War;

(4) encourages the United States Government to use all available means to continue the mission described in paragraph (2) at current or greater levels until the fullest possible accounting missing Americans is achieved;

(5) recognizes that the efforts and involvement of POW/MIA families and veterans contribute significantly to the fullest possible accounting of missing Americans;

(6) recognizes the assistance of host nations in supporting the efforts of the United States Government to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Nation's previous wars and conflicts;

(7) extends its appreciation to Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia for continued assistance and cooperation in the humane recovery, repatriation, and identification of the remains of Americans still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War; and

(8) encourages all host nations to assist and cooperate in the humane recovery, repatriation, and identification of the remains of Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Nation's previous wars and conflicts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) and the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Connecticut.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Connecticut?

There was no objection.

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am honored to rise in support of H. Con. Res. 444, recognizing the difficult, demanding and essential work of the Defense/POW Missing Personnel Office, or DPMO, and all the others devoted to bringing home fallen U.S. servicemembers. DPMO makes sure that none of our men and women in uniform are forgotten or left behind on the field of battle.

This Friday, we will observe National POW/MIA Recognition Day, and I am pleased that passage of this resolution will send a message of sincere thanks to all who remain dedicated, vigilant and loyal to unaccounted for Americans.

Although he cannot be here with us tonight, I would like to recognize my colleague and fellow Vietnam veteran Congressman LANE EVANS, who was a cosponsor of this resolution and a fellow member of the House Armed Services Committee. My good friend from Illinois also shares with me co-chair responsibilities on the United States-Vietnam Congressional Caucus which we established several years ago. Congressman EVANS is retiring at the end of this Congress, and I thank him for his friendship and for his service. He is a former marine, and he has been a great friend to members of all the branches of service. I say to him tonight, LANE, Semper Fi.

This resolution tonight is especially meaningful to Connecticut's Second District. In June 1972, CPT Arnold Holm of Waterford, Connecticut, was shot down over the central highlands of Vietnam. Captain Holm and the two members of his flight crew, PFC Wayne

Bibbs and SP4 Robin Yeakley, were officially listed as missing in action.

Numerous searches for the crash site of their helicopter were unsuccessful, but the dedicated individuals of the DPMO did not give up. Just a few weeks ago, nearly 35 years after the helicopter was shot down, the field team in Vietnam appears to have located Captain Holm's crash site. I cannot tell you what this means to his wife Margaret Holm and to the family. It brings a sense of closure that is indescribable to anyone who has not experienced the profound emotions of personal loss that goes with having a family member as missing in action.

This resolution gives thanks to all of those who have worked to bring home America's POWs and MIAs. It reaffirms our commitment to our fellow Americans who have earned the right to be called heroes.

Americans are unique in this regard because we never leave our own behind. It is part of our national character that we do not write off those lost in defense of our Nation, no matter where they are, no matter how long they have been lost.

The U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory located in Hawaii has an important mission. Their task is to search for, recover and identify the remains of servicemembers, certain civilian personnel and allied personnel unaccounted for from World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War and all other conflicts. DPMO has brought home and identified hundreds of previously unaccounted for servicemembers, which is a costly and dangerous assignment. Americans, Vietnamese and others have lost their lives in search of their lost brothers, but we continue to support their mission because their work is a critical element of who we are.

DPMO's mission is critical to the military families who live with ambiguity and await closure. By continuing the search, we honor their service and their sacrifice.

I have already shared the story of Captain Holm. I have another. Robert Dumas lives in Canterbury, Connecticut. For more than 50 years, he has been searching for his brother Roger, who was a POW in Korea. He has been to Washington, D.C., more than 100 times and has met with Members of Congress and anyone else who might be able to help him uncover the fate of his brother. Bob Dumas promised his mother on her deathbed that he would never abandon the effort to find his brother, and he has kept his word. That is what this resolution is all about, keeping our word to those who have served and to their families.

Men like Roger Dumas, Arnie Holm and millions of others throughout our Nation's history have put their lives on the line for us. Some of them never returned and the fate of the others remains uncertain, but we owe it to them and to their families to try to bring them home.

The governments of Vietnam and Laos and Cambodia and other Nations throughout Southeast Asia also deserve our thanks. They have been instrumental in the search for missing U.S. servicemembers. In many cases, Vietnamese soldiers and officials have risked and lost their lives in the pursuit of American POWs and MIA remains.

When I put my dog tags on over 40 years ago, I noticed that they did not give any indication of my political affiliation, and when you visit the graves of our heroes at nearby Arlington Cemetery you will notice the same thing. None of the markers identify the soldiers' political affiliations. We do not wear the uniform of our country as members of a political party but as Americans. We do not continue to search for our missing servicemen and women as members of a political party but as Americans.

We will continue to support the efforts of the DPMO all around the world because these efforts are important. We will never give up the work, the hope or the commitment, and I ask all of my colleagues to join in support of this important resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 444 and thank my friend Mr. SIMMONS from Connecticut for bringing this resolution forward this evening.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution is an expression of appreciation of the Congress and the Nation to the personnel of the Department of Defense organizations and military departments who are engaged in the mission to achieve the fullest possible accounting for all unaccounted servicemembers in past and current conflicts.

It also recognizes the POW/MIA families and the veterans for their support and foreign Nations that have assisted in these endeavors, and so I am pleased to join my friend from Connecticut in support of this measure, and I thank him for bringing it forward.

Mr. Speaker, on the third Friday of each September our Nation pays tribute to our prisoners of war and those still missing in action during National POW/MIA Recognition Day. On September 15, we will honor America's POWs and all those who have worked and continue the effort to leave no servicemember behind.

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There are thousands of people that support these efforts, from teams on the ground who conduct investigations, analysis and recovery, to those within the Department of Defense Mission Personnel Office, who are responsible for developing the policies and the controls and oversight. Each and every day these dedicated individuals are working to bring home our missing sons and daughters who have served their Nation in uniform.

The joint POW/MIA Accounting Command in Hawaii oversees these missions. The Central Identification Laboratory is the largest forensic anthropology laboratory in the world. The Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory in Maryland is one of the leading laboratories in the world that handles degraded skeletal remains to determine DNA results, and the Air Force Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory in Texas is home to the most comprehensive technical library and collection of life sciences equipment used by the Armed Forces.

But all of our efforts would be for naught, Mr. Speaker, if we did not have the support and cooperation of other nations, such as the Laos People's Democratic Republic, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the Kingdom of Cambodia, in helping us achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans who remain unaccounted for from past and current conflicts.

However, even with the state-of-the-art laboratories and highly trained personnel and the support of foreign nations, we could not be successful as we have been without the support of the families. Yes, the families and the loved ones of those missing in action and those who were captured and returned home. The support of these families and that of our POWs has been immeasurable. We would not be here today in support of National POW/MIA Recognition Day without their encouragement and without their advocacy.

On Friday, National POW/MIA Recognition Day will be one of the six days specified by law that the National League of Families POW/MIA flag is required to be flown over certain Federal buildings, over certain national cemeteries, military installations, and post offices. The flag will fly as a reminder for all Americans to remember those who remain missing in action and those who were captured and have returned home.

And so, Mr. Speaker, let us also take this special moment to recognize those of the current conflict, the current conflict who remain missing: SGT Keith "Matt" Maupin, United States Army Reserves, and MAJ Jill Metzger, United States Air Force. Our thoughts and our prayers are with them and with their families and the families of those whose loved ones remain missing from previous conflicts.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I would simply like to close by thanking my colleague, the gentleman from North Carolina, who serves with great distinction on the House Armed Services Committee, serves our country in a bipartisan fashion, for his contribution and his cooperation on this resolution here tonight.

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, on June 29, 2006, my colleague, Mr. SIMMONS, and I introduced H. Con. Res. 444, extending the thanks of Congress and the Nation to the Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office, the Joint

POW/MIA Accounting Command of the Department of Defense, the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory, the Air Force Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory, and the military departments and to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam for their efforts to achieve the fullest possible accounting of all Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Nation's previous wars and conflicts. I am honored to stand before you today in support of this resolution.

On Friday we will celebrate National POW/MIA Recognition Day. As a Vietnam-era veteran I am deeply touched by the opportunity to discuss this resolution on the floor so close to this important day of recognition. It is difficult for me to understand that over 30 years after the end of hostilities in Vietnam, 1,802 Americans are still unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. It is only through the hard work and cooperation of the people, officials and governments of Vietnam and the United States that the remains of 604 Americans have been identified and returned to the United States. They are the heroes who are helping to bring closure and peace to so many American families.

I urge all my colleagues to vote in support of this long overdue recognition and send a heartfelt message to all the individuals involved in the identification and recovery efforts that a thankful Nation values and appreciates the work they do.

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Likewise, Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SIMMONS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 444, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title of the concurrent resolution was amended so as to read: "Concurrent resolution extending the appreciation of Congress and the Nation to the Department of Defense organizations, military departments, and personnel engaged in the mission to achieve the fullest possible accounting for all Americans unaccounted for as a result of the Nation's wars, to the POW/MIA families and veterans who support the mission, and to foreign nations that assist in the mission."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

NARCOTICS PROBLEM IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to claim Mr. POE's time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the gentleman from Indiana is recognized for 5 minutes.

There was no objection.

IN MEMORY OF TOM JEHL

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Speaker, my subject for tonight is on Afghanistan and the narcotics problem, but before I address that, I would like to insert into the RECORD an excellent newspaper article about Tom Jehl, who died Tuesday in Fort Wayne.

He had this tremendous love for the University of St. Francis and Fort Wayne football team, and that love and this story is about how it kept him alive in the drive for the national championship, and how this year it is the inspiration for that team.

This is in NAIA, not Notre Dame's division. They will be the national champ in that division, but the University of St. Francis has been in the championship for the last few years, and Tom Jehl was their biggest cheerleader, and he is going to be sorely missed in Fort Wayne, and I hope it inspires the team, the Cougars, to go all the way this year.

[From the Fort Wayne News-Sentinel, Sept. 13, 2006]

In January 2005, Fort Wayne businessman and Lifetime Sports Academy co-founder Tom Jehl was diagnosed with aggressive strains of carcinoma and sarcoma cancers. A few weeks later, doctors at the Mayo Clinic told Jehl he had six months to live.

Jehl died Tuesday at age 76. This story is how he turned that prediction into 21 months with the help of some young friends.

When Jehl was informed of his diagnosis, one of the first people he called was University of Saint Francis Football coach Kevin Donley. The pair had met eight years earlier while waiting to participate in an hour-long radio sports show.

"I didn't know anything about Lifetime Sports Academy and Tom Jehl," Donley said, "and he didn't know anything about me and thought I was a fool to start a football team at Saint Francis. I thought, 'This guy's getting a half-hour of my deal,' and he's thinking, 'I'm getting a half-hour of his deal and they'll never play a game.'"

Almost, but not quite.

"I was trying not to listen to him," Jehl said a few weeks ago, laughing. "Out of the corner of my ear I hear him say 'We intend to win a national championship,' and I was like, Oh, brother, are we bringing a caseload to Fort Wayne! And he's on before me?"

A former Central Catholic quarterback, class of 1948, Jehl's first love was football. He played his college ball at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, before joining the Air Force, and it had always been his dream that Fort Wayne high school players would have a closer option. A few weeks after their meeting, Jehl walked into Donley's office and asked how he could help.

Over the next few years, Jehl helped the school name the football stadium after